AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of Claims - This will replace all prior listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) An article comprising:

a storage medium; and

instructions stored in the storage medium, which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to generate and transmit one or more messages to a receiving computer system, the one or more messages including

a media message to be displayed on the receiving computer system as a first layer of an adaptive media message, the media message including a ~~first reference~~link;

logic for testing digital content capabilities of the receiving computer system when the ~~first reference is given effect~~link is dereferenced; and

logic for displaying a selected one of a plurality of versions of digital content selected based on the results of testing digital content capabilities of the receiving computer system, such that the receiving computer system may ~~use~~ display the selected version of the digital content in the media message ~~to display the selected version of the digital content~~as a second layer of the adaptive media message.

2. (Previously presented) The article of claim 1, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the logic is directly contained in the one or more messages.

3. (Previously presented) The article of claim 1, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the logic is included in the one or more messages by reference.

4. (Previously presented) The article of claim 1, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the selected one of the plurality of versions of the digital content is not directly included in the media

message as first transmitted to the receiving computer system, but is separately transferred under the control of the logic for displaying.

5. (Previously presented) The article of claim 1, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the selected one of the plurality of versions of the digital content is downloaded by the logic for displaying, and is downloaded in a form customized for an addressee of the message.

6. (Currently amended) A method in a computing system for presenting an adaptive message, comprising:

receiving a message in the computing system including a ~~first reference~~link;

displaying the message as a first layer of an adaptive media message;

based on the contents of the received message: testing, when the ~~first reference is given effect~~link is dereferenced, two or more digital content capabilities of the computing system; selecting one of a plurality of different digital content elements based upon the results of the testing; and presenting the selected one of the plurality of different digital content elements within the message as a second layer of the adaptive media message.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the plurality of different digital content elements includes a high-quality video sequence and a low-quality video sequence.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the plurality of different digital content elements includes a video sequence and an animation sequence.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the plurality of different digital content elements includes a first digital content element constructed for

playing on a first player and a second digital content element constructed for playing on a second player different from the first player.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 wherein the selected one of the different digital content elements is selected based upon actions of a user of the computer system in connection with the received message.

11. – 33. (Cancelled)

34. (Currently amended) An article comprising:

a storage medium; and

instructions stored in the storage medium, which, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to generate and transmit one or more messages to a receiving computer system, the one or more messages including

a media message to be displayed on the receiving computer system as a first layer of an adaptive media message, the media message including a ~~first reference~~link;

logic for testing capabilities of the receiving computer system when the ~~first reference is given effect~~link is dereferenced; and

logic for displaying a selected one of a plurality of versions of media content selected based on the results of testing capabilities of the receiving computer system, such that the receiving computer system may ~~use the media message to~~ display the selected one of the plurality of versions of the media content in the media message as a second layer of the adaptive media message.

35. – 39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously presented) The article of claim 1, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the logic for

testing digital content capabilities of the receiving computer system includes a script to be executed by the receiving computer system to test said digital content capabilities.

41. (Previously presented) The article of claim 34, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the logic for testing and the logic for displaying are appended to the media message.

42. (Previously presented) The article of claim 34, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the media message further includes:

a replaceable section to be replaced by a replacing section including the selected one of the plurality of versions of media content.

43. (Previously presented) The article of claim 42, wherein the instructions, when executed by the processor, generate the one or more messages such that the logic for displaying includes a replace script to replace the replaceable section of the media message with the replacing section.